ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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Methods of performing cycloadditions are described that include (a) combining a first reactant and a second reactant in a hydrogen bonding solvent to form a reaction mixture; and (b) reacting the first reactant and the second reactant to form a cycloadduct. Methods of performing asymmetric catalytic reactions are also described that include (a) combining a first reactant, a second reactant, and a catalytic amount of a chiral hydrogen-bond donor in a solvent to form a reaction mixture; and (b) reacting the first reactant and the second reactant to form an enantiomeric excess of a reaction product. Reaction mixtures corresponding to these methods are also described.